

Amendment to the Claims

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An antibody ~~directed~~ that binds to a conformational epitope of a protein of Hepatitis C virus E2 protein, wherein the epitope is found in Hepatitis C virus of more than one genotype, and wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of CBH-2, CBH-4G, CBH-5, CBH-7, CBH-8C, and CBH-11, or binds to the same conformational epitope as that bound by an antibody selected from the group consisting of CBH-2, CBH-4G, CBH-5, CBH-7, CBH-8C, and CBH-11.

Claims 2-3. (Canceled)

Claim 4-7. (Canceled)

Claim 8. (Currently amended) An antibody ~~directed~~ that binds to a conformational epitope within amino acids 411 through 644 of E2 protein of Hepatitis C virus 1b, wherein the antibody ~~is capable of binding~~ binds to the E2 protein of Hepatitis C virus of more than one genotype, wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of CBH-2, CBH-5, CBH-8C, and CBH-11, or binds to the same conformational epitope as that bound by an antibody selected from the group consisting of CBH-2, CBH-5, CBH-8C, and CBH-11.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) An antibody ~~directed~~ that binds to a conformational epitope within amino acids 470 through 644 of E2 protein of Hepatitis C virus 1b, wherein the antibody is capable of binding to the E2 protein of Hepatitis C virus of more than one genotype, wherein

the antibody is CBH-4G or CBH-7, or binds to the same conformational epitope as that bound by CBH-4G or CBH-7.

Claim 10-11. (Canceled)

Claim 12. (Currently amended) An antibody directed that binds to the epitope recognized by CBH-2, -4D, -4B, -4G, -5, -7, -8C or -11.

Claim 13. (Canceled)

Claim 14. (Currently amended) The antibody of claim 3 1 wherein the antibody inhibits binding of HCV E2 protein to CD81.

E2  
Claim 15. (Original) A cell line expressing the antibody of claim 1.

Claim 16. (Original) The cell line of claim 15 wherein the cell line is a B cell line.

Claim 17. (Original) The cell line of claim 15 wherein the cell line is a human cell line.

Claim 18. (Original) The cell line of claim 15 wherein the cell line is a mammalian cell line.

Claim 19. (Original) The cell line of claim 15 wherein the cell line is a eukaryotic cell line.

Claim 20. (Original) The cell line of claim 15 wherein the cell line is a hybridoma.

Claim 21. (Original) The cell line of claim 15 wherein the cell line has been transformed with Epstein-Barr virus (EBV).

Claim 22. (Original) The cell line of claim 15 wherein the cell line has been infected with a virus.

Claim 23. (Canceled)

Claim 24. (Canceled)

Claim 25. (Currently amended) The antibody of claim 1, ~~[[4,]] 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, or~~ 13 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) The antibody of claim 1, ~~[[4,]] 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, or~~ 13 wherein the antibody is a human antibody.

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Claim 27. (Currently amended) The antibody of claim 1, ~~[[4,]] 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12, or~~ 13 wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.

Claim 28. (Original) The antibody of claim 1 wherein the antibody is a mammalian antibody.

Claims 29 - 91. (Canceled)

Claim 92. (Currently amended) A combination of two or more antibodies ~~directed to two or more,~~ wherein at least two of the antibodies bind to different conformational epitopes of E2 protein of Hepatitis C virus of more than one genotype, wherein each antibody is selected from the group consisting of CBH-2, CBH-4G, CBH-5, CBH-7, CBH-8C, and CBH-11, or binds to

the same conformational epitope as that bound by an antibody selected from the group consisting of CBH-2, CBH-4G, CBH-5, CBH-7, CBH-8C, and CBH-11.

Claim 93. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 92, wherein the combination shows increased total binding of the combined antibodies to E2 protein of Hepatitis C virus compared to the binding shown by either antibody any of the antibodies individually.

Claim 94. (Canceled)

Claim 95. (Previously amended) The combination of claim 92 comprising CBH-7 and CBH-4G.

Claim 96. (Canceled)

Claim 97. (Previously amended) The combination of claim 92 comprising CBH-7 and CBH-17.

Claim 98 - 102. (Canceled)

Claim 103. (Previously added) The combination of claim 92 comprising CBH-7 and CBH-5.

Claim 104. (Previously added) The combination of claim 92 comprising CBH-7 and CBH-2.

Claim 105. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 93, wherein each antibody in the combination is ~~directed~~ binds to a different epitope.

Claim 106. (New) An antibody that binds to a conformational epitope of Hepatitis C virus E2 protein, wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of CBH-4B and CBH-4D.

Claim 107. (New) A combination of two or more antibodies, at least two of which bind to different conformational epitopes of E2 protein of Hepatitis C virus, wherein each antibody is selected from the group consisting of CBH-4B, CBH-4D, CBH-4G, and CBH-7.

E2  
E2  
Concl'd.